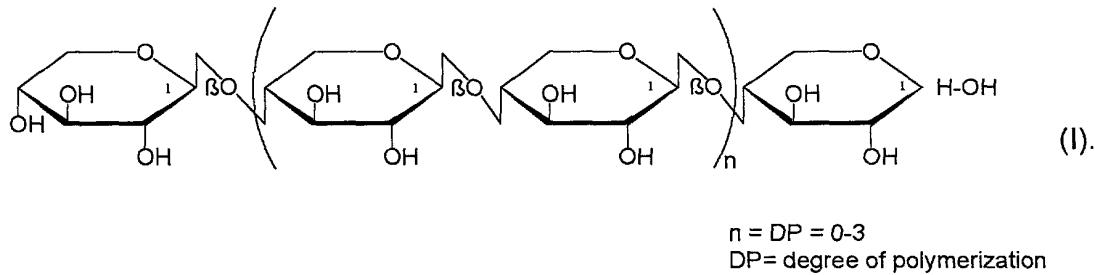


What is claimed is:

1. A beverage which comprises at least one xylooligosaccharide and at least one intense sweetener.

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2. The beverage as claimed in claim 1, wherein the xylooligosaccharide is a compound of the formula I



10 3. The beverage as claimed in claim 1, wherein the xylooligosaccharide has a degree of polymerization of DP = 1 to 10.

4. The beverage as claimed in claim 1, wherein the beverage comprises 0.01 to 5% by weight (based on the beverage) of xylooligosaccharide.

15 5. The beverage as claimed in claim 1, wherein the intense sweetener is selected from the group consisting of: acesulfame, alitame, aspartame, cyclamate, neohesperidin dihydrochalcone, neotame, saccharin, sucralose, thaumatin, water-soluble sodium salts, potassium salts, calcium salts of these intense sweeteners and mixtures of two or more members of this group.

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6. The beverage as claimed in claim 1, based on water, milk or fermented milk, flavorings, essences, extracts of fruits or fruit juices, or extracts of malt or other carbohydrate-containing raw materials.

7. The beverage as claimed in claim 1, wherein it also comprises sugar (sucrose), glucose and/or fructose in solid or syrup form.

5 8. The beverage as claimed in claim 5, wherein the intense sweetener is a mixture of Acesulfame-K (= potassium salt of acesulfame) and aspartame.

9. The beverage as claimed in claim 1, wherein it contains carbon dioxide.

10 10. A process for producing a beverage as claimed in claim 1, which comprises adding to a beverage at least one xylooligosaccharide and at least one intense sweetener.

11. A method for producing beverages by using xylooligosaccharides as an intense sweetner.